PMGSY in Bihar

754. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that inspite of engaging Central agencies, the works of construction of rural roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), are not being completed on time;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the remedial measures being taken by the Government to complete the projects on time and also to minimize the time and cost overdue; and

(c) the penal measures being contemplated against the officials/contractors who have not carried out the assigned works in the State of Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) Some projects under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) being executed in the central agencies in Bihar have not been completed within the time period prescribed in the PMGSY programme guidelines.

(b) The reasons for delay in completion of PMGSY projects by the central agencies are as follows:—

(i) In spite of repeated tendering of many works, bids are not received resulting delay in completion.

(ii) Agencies have not been able to make available land free of encumbrances in some cases to contractors resulting corresponding delays.

(iii) In some cases local problems of villages, naxal activities and law and order problems etc. have created hindrances in completion of works.

(iv) In some cases the works have been delayed because of heavy rains followed by flood.

The following measures have been taken for minimizing time and cost over run:—

(i) The Standard Bidding Document has been amended in order to attract more contractors and to enhance the capacity of the existing contractors.

(ii) During regular review meetings, the Central Agencies have been repeatedly requested to make all efforts to attract contractors for taking up PMGSY works.

(iii) The State Government has been requested to provide security to personnel of Central Agencies and contractors in case of incidents of Law and Order.

(iv) Close monitoring of work-wise progress is being carried out to speed up pace of implementation of PMGSY works.

(c) Central agencies have been advised to enforce the provisions of Standard Bidding Document, which provides for levy of liquidated damages for delay caused by the contractors.